



**Citizens' Institute
on Rural Design**

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
Lincoln | **EXTENSION**

My Town, Lancaster County Workshop Agenda

March 19 – 21, 2015

Thursday, March 19

Jackie Gaughan Multicultural Center, Second Floor, Unity Room
University of Nebraska City Campus, 1505 S Street, Lincoln, NE

Park in Larsen Building Garage at 14th and O Street, metered on-street parking (free after 6 pm), limited handicap parking north of building on S Street.

5:30 PM **Secrets of Successful Communities**

ED MCMAHON - Urban Land Institute

Ed McMahon, Senior Fellow at the Urban Land Institute, will share his enthusiasm for community engagement in the planning process, the dollars and sense of preserving community character and the importance of a community's history and stories. He will set out the "secrets of successful communities" and will provide examples of how communities can grow while also preserving what they love.

6:30 PM **Welcome – Workshop participants adjourn to Heritage Room, UNL Student Union**

ROMA AMUNDSEN – Chairperson, Lancaster County Board of Commissioners

SARA HARTZELL – Lancaster County Planner

Welcome, introductions, and a brief overview of what to expect throughout the workshop.

6:45 PM **Dinner**

7:15 PM **My Town Reports**

Each town will give a 5-minute presentation introducing their town and sharing the goals they identified for discussion at this workshop

Friday, March 20

Lancaster County Extension Offices
444 Cherry Creek Rd, Lincoln, NE

Park in lot east and south of building

8:00 AM **Breakfast**

8:15 AM **Welcome**

Welcome and a chance for attendees to ask questions.

8:30 AM **SOAR Session**

Lincoln-Lancaster County Planning Department Staff

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension Staff

Towns will brainstorm their Strengths, Opportunities, Aspirations, and Results (SOAR).

9:55 AM **Break**

10:00 AM **Learning Carousel**

Participants will be divided into groups to attend three 45-minute presentations.

1 Community Planning

BRANDON GARRETT - Lincoln-Lancaster County Planning Department

PAUL BARNES - Lincoln-Lancaster County Planning Department

Learn the basics of community planning including comprehensive plans, zoning and subdivision regulations, and design standards.

2 Public Engagement

MILAN WALL - Heartland Center for Leadership Development

Learn about engaging the members of your community and how to get them involved.

3 Placemaking

CYNTHIA NIKITIN - Project for Public Spaces

Learn about placemaking as an approach to community revitalization.

12:30 PM **Lunch**

Friday, March 20 (continued)

- 12:40 PM **Nebraska Success Stories**
SHIRLEY NIEMEYER - Ashland Steering Committee
DOUG FRIEDLI - Nebraska City Community Foundation
DORIS OURECKY - Nebraska Czechs of Wilber
Speakers from 3 Nebraska towns will share the success they have experienced identifying and strengthening their community's unique sense of identity through history, the arts, cultural celebrations, and intensive public engagement.
- 2:00 PM **Collaboration**
DAVID NELSON - Project for Public Spaces
Discuss possible opportunities for Lancaster County towns to form collaborative partnerships and share their resources.
- 2:30 PM **Break**
- 2:35 PM **Economic Development**
DON MACKE - Center for Rural Entrepreneurship
NICOLE SEDLACEK - Holt County Economic Development
MIKE FEEKEN - St. Paul Development Corporation
GREG PTACEK - Neligh Economic Development Corporation
Economic development strategies for improving small towns.
- 3:50 PM **Public & Private Resources**
DEBORAH DRBAL - USDA Rural Development
Nebraska Department of Economic Development Staff
GRETA LEACH - Nebraska Community Foundation
Learn about technical and funding tools and resources available from governmental and private sources.
- 5:00 PM **My Town Discussion**
Towns will come together in small groups to share their initial reactions to the day's sessions and generate responses to three key questions.
- 5:45 PM **Break for the Day**

Saturday, March 21

Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center, Education Center
11700 Southwest 100th Street, Denton, NE

Parking in gravel lot west of building

- 8:30 AM **Welcome & Breakfast**
Welcome and a chance for attendees to ask questions.
- 9:00 AM **Lighter, Quicker, Cheaper**
CYNTHIA NIKITIN - Project for Public Spaces
Learn low cost, low risk, high impact interventions for improving your community.
- 10:00 AM **Leadership Development**
MILAN WALL - Heartland Center for Leadership Development
Learn how to develop a public involvement strategy and identify and develop leaders in your community.
- 11:00 AM **My Town Discussion**
Towns will discuss thoughts from yesterday and review the goals each brought to the workshop, discuss any adjustments or additional goals desired, and start talking about next steps.
- 12:00 PM **Working Lunch**
Towns will prepare materials for a poster presentation where they will share their thoughts on next steps for their community.
- 1:00 PM **Poster Presentation & Wrap-Up**
The public is invited to join the workshop for a presentation of the results.



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community
MATTERS